

Gary, Indiana. He earned both academic and Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarships to the University of California, Los Angeles (U.C.L.A.). Upon graduation from U.C.L.A. in 1960 with a bachelor of science degree in Electrical Engineering, Captain Anderson was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Navy.

Captain Anderson served his country in the Navy for five years. After flight training in Pensacola, Florida, and Corpus Cristi, Texas, he was deployed to Vietnam where he patrolled the coast at the controls of a P2V airplane. Following his 1965 Honorable Discharge from active duty in the Navy, Captain Anderson returned to Los Angeles and continued military service until 1972 as a member of the United States Naval Reserve. During this time he was employed by I.B.M. as a systems engineer.

In 1968, Captain Anderson began his career as a commercial aviator with Western Air Lines. He was the second African-American pilot hired by the airline and began with the rank of Second Officer flying 737s. At Western, Anderson steadily progressed through the ranks. He was promoted to First Officer in 1972 and earned his Captain's wings in 1979. In June of 1980 he made the transition to DC-10s as a First Officer. Also a member of the Air Line Pilot's Association (ALPA) since 1968, Capt. Anderson's colleagues expressed their esteem for him by selecting him to serve as Chairman of ALPA's Grievance Committee for five years.

Captain Anderson flew 737 and DC-10 jet aircraft for Western until its acquisition by Delta Airlines in 1987. He retained his rank of Captain, flying 727 jets for the carrier. In 1989, Captain Anderson took on additional responsibilities as Line Check Airman; and in 1991 he became an Assistant Chief Pilot based in Los Angeles and in 1996 was promoted to become Delta's first African-American Chief Pilot, a position he held until retirement.

In addition to his distinguished aviation career, Captain Anderson has been a devoted family man. Robert and Yolanda Anderson are the proud parents of four: Roderick Eldon, Kimberly Mauriere, Staci Larelle, and Roslynn Elise; and the grandparents of young Tyrone Pierce Hinderson, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Captain Robert Anderson on his service to our nation and on a stellar career in aviation. I ask that you join me in commending and extending our best wishes to him and Yolanda for many years of good health and prosperity.

**KEEP GUNS OUT OF THE HANDS
OF CRIMINALS**

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation intended to keep firearms out of the hands of those convicted of misdemeanor drug offenses. Current federal law prohibits a person convicted of a felony crime involving drugs and firearms from owning a firearm. However, those convicted of lesser drug offenses can legally own a gun. My legislation would impose strict penalties and fines for misdemeanors during crimes such as use or possession of an illegal sub-

stance when a firearm is present. Similar to legislation I have introduced in the past, my bill has had the endorsement of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police and the National Association of Chiefs of Police.

Quite simply, this bill would expand current law to treat individuals who commit less-serious drug offenses in the same manner as people involved in other drug crimes, such as drug trafficking. Those found guilty of simple possession of a controlled substance, and who possesses a firearm at the same time of the offense, will face mandatory jail time and/or substantial fines in addition to any penalty imposed for the drug offense. Mandatory jail time and fines would be required for second and subsequent offenses.

The guilty party would be prohibited from owning a firearm for 5 years. Exceptions could be granted depending upon the circumstances surrounding each individual's case. Current law states that a person convicted of a drug crime can petition to the Secretary of the Treasury for an exemption to the firearms prohibition provided it would not threaten public safety. This legislation will not affect a law-abiding citizen's right to own a firearm.

By imposing stiff penalties on people convicted of lesser drug offenses where a firearm is present, we will send a serious message that the cost of engaging in this activity far outweighs the benefit. If my bill becomes law, individuals owning firearms for legitimate purposes (hunting, target-shooting, collecting, or personal protection) and who also engage in the use of illicit drugs, will think twice before participating in their drug-related endeavors, facing the prospect of enhanced penalties and the loss of their firearms.

Mr. Speaker, the 104th Congress passed legislation that will prevent the early release of drug traffickers and provide increased enforcement on our borders to reduce drug trafficking. Last year, the House passed legislation to establish a program to support and encourage local communities who demonstrate a comprehensive, long-term commitment to reduce substance abuse among youth. I urge my colleagues to continue to focus its efforts on the drug war by passing this legislation in an effort to crack down on this criminal behavior. Drugs and guns are a lethal combination that must not be tolerated by a civilized nation.

TRIBUTE TO ELLEN STRAUS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, last week, I had the privilege of taking part in a ceremony to honor a true American hero. Ellen Straus, and her family, were named the recipients of the 1998 Steward of the Land award by American Farmland Trust. Ellen was selected because of her tireless efforts in promoting responsible land stewardship, farmland conservation policy and the use of environmentally and economically sustainable farming practices. This national award could not have gone to a more deserving person.

Born in Amsterdam, Holland, Ellen came to the United States in 1940. She met and married Bill Straus in 1950 and moved to his dairy on the Tomales Bay, in Marin County, where

they have been farming ever since. In 1993, the family converted their traditional dairy to an organic operation. The Straus Family Creamery, the first organic dairy and creamery west of the Mississippi, now sells over one million bottles of organic milk per year, in addition to cheese, butter and yogurt.

Their commitment to environmentally sound practices dominates their operation. Their cows are fed 100 percent organically grown feed and are not treated with hormones or antibiotics. Their milk is sold in reusable glass bottles. A windmill pumps water to cows pastured uphill to reduce land erosion. Their bottle washing equipment has been redesigned to use 90% less water than originally designed, and the reclaimed water is used to wash floors. Wastewater generated at the creamery is treated in containment ponds and is later used to irrigate pasture lands. And, they are the first ranch in the area to use a no-till drill for seeding crops. The Straus family's farming practices have been a model to ranchers throughout Marin County and serve as a standard for organic farming nationwide.

One of Ellen's greatest legacies is the organization she co-founded in 1980, the Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT). MALT was the first land trust in the country to focus exclusively on the protection of farm and ranch lands. Through her efforts, Ellen was able to build a consensus among the agricultural, environmental and political communities to protect the farmland which is such an important part of the heritage of Marin County. Currently, MALT holds easements on over 25,000 acres of land, protecting 38 Marin County farms from development. Ellen's vision has served as a model for other land trusts which have been developed across the country.

As a Member of the House of Representatives, I have the good fortune to represent some of the greatest constituents in the country, and Ellen Straus is one of these people. She and Bill have advocated for a lifestyle in which they truly live and believe. Ellen has been an inspiration to me for her vision, her dedication, and her desire to protect the environment and agriculture as a way of life. Without her efforts, the agricultural heritage of West Marin County would have disappeared to development and urban sprawl many years ago. Instead, Ellen Straus has protected the peace and beauty of the West Marin hills for generations to come.

**INTRODUCTION OF SEN. ROBERT C.
BYRD**

HON. ROBERT E. WISE, JR.

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the opportunity to be at an event with Congressman NICK RAHALL and Senator ROBERT C. BYRD in Beckley, West Virginia. That day Congressman RAHALL gave a wonderful introduction of Senator BYRD. I would like to submit a copy of his remarks for the RECORD.

REMARKS OF U.S. REP. NICK RAHALL, INTRODUCTION OF U.S. SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD, COLLEGE OF WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY, NOVEMBER 22, 1997.

Thank you, Dr. Polk.
"I cannot live without books." Declared Thomas Jefferson at age 72.